GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:638
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2003
DISPARITIES IN STANDARD OF EDUCATION
BIR SING MAHATO;HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are wide disparities in the standard of education of various universities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to bring about uniformity in the standard of education of all the universities; and

(d) the extent of success achieved by the Government in their efforts?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINIS OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENTREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOKSABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.638 DATE 6.5.2003 ASKEDBY SHRIBIRSINGHMAHATOAND SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY,MPs REGARDING DISPARITIES I STANDARD OF EDUCATION

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission(UGC),the disparity exists in various universities in respect of appropriate academic and other support structure as well as diversity of teachers. Disparities in the standard of education in universities is attributed to a large number of critical factors including the age of the university, quality of curricula, teaching work force, evaluation techniques, resources, governance, leadership, accountability, geographical location etc.

(c) & (d): The UGC has made several effortsto bring about uniformity of standard of education across the universities through appropriate measures, which, inter alia, include mandatory minimum qualifications and experience for appointment of teachers in all the universities.

Major thrust is being given to improve the quality of education and research in the institutions of higher learning. The UGC has made assessment of universities compulsory by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).UGC has identified five Universities as the University with potential for excellence. Twelve Universities have been identified under the scheme of Centres for Excellence. The Commission hasdecided to launch a scheme to identify 100 colleges throughout the country as Colleges with potential for excellence. Model curricula in core subjects have been circulated to all the Universities in the country with an advice to update their Curricula in a time bound manner. In order to provide intranet and internet connectivity to universities and colleges across the country, the UGC has established UGC- Infonet.A total 77 universities have so far signed MOU with UGC for establishment of UGC-Infonet. Further, in the X Plan, the UGC also proposesto get e-course developed for universities to enable them to have access to the quality course ware at their door step.

The UGC has set up 51 Academic Staff Colleges and hasidentified several university department to conduct Refresher Courses to abreast them in their respective subjects.